

IN THE CLAIMS

I. Please amend the indicated claims as shown:

1. (Currently Amended) In a data storage system, a method for detecting errors in data to be stored within the data storage system, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the data at the data storage system;
receiving application error checking information at the data storage system;
generating data storage error checking information on the data ~~received in the data storage system~~; and
comparing the application error checking information₁ in a format that is compatible with the data storage error checking information, to the data storage error checking information, to determine if the data ~~received in the data storage system~~ contains an error upon receipt₁; and
_____ if the data contains an error, providing an indication of the error₁; and
_____ if the data does not contain an error, storing the data within the data storage system.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving the data includes the steps of:

receiving a portion of data;
generating data portion error checking information for the portion of data;
and
repeating the steps receiving a portion of data and generating data portion error checking information until all portions of data are received that ~~comprise an application data block~~ constitute an application data block ~~for upon~~ which an application that originates the application data block has computed the application error checking information ~~upon~~.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein:

the data portion error checking information is an N-byte checksum value respectively generated in the data storage system for each portion of data that is received; and

the step of generating data storage error checking information computes an N-byte value for the data storage error checking information by performing an exclusive-or on all N-byte checksum values for all portions of data that are received that comprise the application data block.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein:

the application error checking information is an M-byte checksum value, computed by the application that originates the data, on all portions of data that comprise the application data block; and

wherein the method further includes the step of:

converting the application error checking information M-byte value into an N-byte value such that the step of comparing can compare the data storage error checking information with the application error checking information to determine if the application data block comprised of the portions of data received contains an error.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the application error checking information is embedded within at least one portion of data that is received, and wherein the step of converting includes the step of:

extracting the application error checking information from that at least one portion of data in which the application error checking information is embedded.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the step of generating data storage error checking information includes the steps of:

combining the data portion error checking information generated for each portion of data received in order to generate the data storage error checking information, such that the data storage error checking information is comparable

-4-

in a manner that is compatible with the application error checking information to determine if the application data block comprised of the portions of data received contains an error.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving data includes the steps of:

receiving multiple portions of data that ~~comprise an application~~ constitute an application data block; and

generating data portion error checking information for each portion of data in the application data block; and

wherein the step of generating data storage error checking information includes the step of:

combining the data portion error checking information generated for each portion of data that comprises the application data block in order to generate the data storage error checking information; and

wherein the method further includes the steps of:

determining if the application error checking information is comparable to the data storage error checking information; and

if it the application error checking information is not comparable to the data storage error checking information, converting the application

error checking information into a format that is comparable with the data storage error checking information and proceeding to perform the step of comparing; and

if it the application error checking information is comparable to the data storage error checking information, proceeding to perform the step of comparing.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of generating data storage error checking information generates data storage error checking information on application data ~~for upon~~ which an application that originates that the application data generates the application error checking information upon.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 further including the steps of:

receiving a configuration command at the data storage system, the configuration command indicating to the data storage system at least one of:

- i) a designation of a portion of storage within the data storage system for storing the data processed by the steps of receiving, generating and comparing;
- ii) an indication of areas in the portion of storage that do not contain data including application error checking information;
- iii) an indication of a location of application error checking information within an application data block that comprises the data that is received; and
- iv) an indication of a size of the application data block.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 further including the step of:

in response to receiving the configuration command, designating the portion of storage within the data storage system for storing the data processed by the steps of receiving, generating and comparing, such that data received that is to be stored in the designated portion of storage is subjected to the steps of generating data storage error checking information and comparing the application error checking information to the data storage error checking, and such that an error in the data received that is to be stored in the designated portion of storage is detected upon receipt of the data by the data storage system.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 further including the step of:

in response to receiving the configuration command, the step of generating data storage error checking information on the data received in the data storage system excludes generating data storage error checking information on data that is to be stored within the portion of storage that does not contain data including application error checking information.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:

the data is database data generated by a database application;
the application error checking information is software generated checksum information generated on portions of the database data by the database application and is embedded within the database data received; and
the step of generating data storage error checking information applies, within the data storage system, a data storage error checking checksum algorithm to the database data received that is compatible with a software application error checking algorithm used by the database application to create the application error checking information, such that the data storage error checking algorithm produces a data storage error checking information result that the step of comparing can use to compatibly compare with the application error checking information to determine if the data received contains an error.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein ~~the database application is an Oracle database application and wherein the database data is Oracle database data and wherein the application error checking information is an embedded Oracle checksum received with the Oracle database data at a predetermined offset in an Oracle application data block.~~

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein if the step of comparing determines that the data received in the data storage system contains an error, the step of providing an indication of the error includes providing, to a software application that originated the data, a rejection of at least one input-output request performed to receive the data in the data storage system.

15. (Currently Amended) A data storage system comprising:

an interface receiving data to be stored in the data storage system and receiving application error checking information;
an error detection component;
at least one storage device; and

-7-

an interconnection mechanism coupling the interface, the error detection component and the at least one storage device; and

wherein the error detection component operates in the data storage system to detect errors in the data to be stored within the data storage system by:

generating data storage error checking information on the data ~~received by the interface;~~

comparing the application error checking information₁ in a format that is compatible with the data storage error checking information₂ to the data storage error checking information₂ to determine if the data received in ~~the data storage system~~ contains an error upon receipt₁; and

_____ if the data contains an error, providing an indication of the error₁; and

_____ if the data does not contain an error, storing the data within the at least one storage device in the data storage system.

16. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 15 wherein:

_____ the interface receives the data by receiving a portion of the data; and

~~wherein the error detection component further includes a data portion error checking information generator coupled to the interface; and~~

~~wherein the data portion error checking information generator generates data portion error checking information for the portion of data received by the interface; and~~

~~wherein the interface and the data portion error checking information generator repeat the operations of i) receiving a portion of the data and ii) generating data portion error checking information, until all portions of the data are received by the interface that ~~comprise an app~~ constitute an application data block for upon which an application that originates the data computed the application error checking information ~~upon~~.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 16 wherein the error detection component further includes:

~~_____ a data portion error checking information generator coupled to the interface; and~~

a data storage error checking information generator coupled to the data portion error checking information generator; and

wherein the data portion error checking information is an N-byte checksum value respectively generated by the data portion error checking information generator for each portion of data that is received by the interface; and

wherein when the error detection component generates the data storage error checking information, the data storage error checking information generator computes an N-byte value for the data storage error checking information by performing an exclusive-or on all data portion error checking information N-byte checksum values for all portions of data that are received by the interface that comprise the application data block.

18. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 17 wherein:

the application error checking information is an M-byte checksum value computed by the application ~~that originates the data on~~ all portions of data that comprise the application data block; and

wherein the error detection component further includes an application error checking information extractor coupled to the interface which converts the application error checking information M-byte value into an N-byte value such that the error detection component, when performing the operation of comparing, can compare the data storage error checking information with the application error checking information to determine if the application data block ~~comprised of the portions of data received in the memory system contains an error.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 18 wherein:

~~_____~~ the application error checking information is embedded within at least one portion of data that is received by the interface; and

~~_____ wherein when~~ the application error checking information extractor converts the application error checking information, the application error checking information extractor extracts the application error checking information from ~~that~~ at least one portion of data which the application error checking information is embedded.

20. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 16 wherein the error detection component further includes:

a data storage error checking information generator coupled to the data portion error checking information generator; and

wherein when the error detection component performs the operation of generating data storage error checking information, the data storage error checking information generator combines the data portion error checking information generated for each portion of data received at the interface in order to generate the data storage error checking information, such that the data storage error checking information is comparable by the error detection component in a manner that is compatible with the application error checking information such that the error detection component can determine if the application data block ~~comprised of the portions of data~~ contains an error.

21. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 15, wherein:

the interface includes an input-output request handler that operates to receive multiple portions of data that ~~comprise an appl~~constitute an application data block; and

wherein the error detection component includes:

a data portion error checking information generator, coupled to the input-output request handler, that generates data portion error checking information for each portion of data in the application data block;

a data storage error checking information generator, coupled to the data portion error checking information generator, that combines the data portion error checking information generated for each portion of data that comprises the

application data block in order to generate the data storage error checking information;

an application error checking information extractor, coupled to the input-output request handler, that determines if the application error checking information is comparable to the data storage error checking information, and if it is not comparable, converts the application error checking information into a format that is comparable with the data storage error checking information.

22. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 15 wherein the error detection component generates data storage error checking information on application data ~~for~~ upon which an application that originates ~~that~~ the application data generates the application error checking information ~~upon~~.

23. (Original) The data storage system of claim 15 wherein the interface receives a configuration command indicating to the data storage system at least one of:

- i) a designation of a portion of storage within that at least one storage device in the data storage system for storing the data processed by the steps of receiving, generating and comparing;
- ii) an indication of areas in the portions of storage that do not contain data including application error checking information;
- iii) an indication of a location of application error checking information within an application data block that comprises the data that is received; and
- iv) an indication of a size of the application data block.

24. (Original) The data storage system of claim 23 wherein the interface, in response to receiving the configuration command, causes the data storage system to designate the portion of storage within the data storage system for storing the data processed by the error detection component, such that data received by the interface that is to be stored in the designated portion of storage is subject to processing by the error detection component, and such that an error

in the data received that is to be stored in the designated portion of storage is detected upon by the error detection component upon receipt of the data by the data storage system.

25. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 23 wherein, in response to receiving the configuration command, the error detection component generates data storage error checking information on the data received in the data storage system ~~excludes generating data storage error checking information on~~ excludes the data that is to be stored within the portion of storage that does not contain data including application error checking information.

26. (Original) The data storage system of claim 15 wherein:

the data is database data generated by a database application;

the application error checking information is software generated checksum information generated on portions of the database data by the database application and is embedded within the database data received; and

the error detection component applies a data storage error checking checksum algorithm to the database data that is compatible with a software application error checking algorithm used by the database application to create the application error checking information, such that the data storage error checking algorithm produces a data storage error checking information result that the error detection component can use to compatibly compare with the application error checking information to determine if the data received contains an error.

27. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 26 wherein the ~~database application is an Oracle database application and wherein the database data is Oracle database data and wherein the application error checking information is an embedded Oracle checksum received by the error detection component with the Oracle database data at a predetermined offset in an Oracle application data block.~~

28. (Currently Amended) The data storage system of claim 15, wherein if the error detection component determines in the comparing operation that the data received in the data storage system contains an error, the error detection component provides an indication of the error to a software application that originated the data and the interface rejects ~~of~~ at least one input-output request performed to receive the data in the data storage system.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer program product having a computer-readable medium including computer program logic encoded thereon that when performed on a data storage system, causes the data storage system to detect error in data to be stored in the data storage system, and wherein when the computer program logic is performed on at least one processor in the data storage system ~~system~~, the computer program logic causes the at least one processor to perform the operations of:

receiving the data at the data storage system;

receiving application error checking information at the data storage system;

generating data storage error checking information on the data ~~received in the data storage system~~; and

comparing the application error checking information_i in a format that is compatible with the data storage error checking information_i to the data storage error checking information_i to determine if the data ~~received in the data storage system~~ contains an error upon receipt_i; and

_____ if the data contains an error, providing an indication of the error_i; and

_____ if the data does not contain an error, storing the data within the data storage system.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 29 wherein the computer program logic that performs the step of generating data storage error checking information, when performed on the at least one processor, causes the

-13-

at least one processor to perform the step of:—combining the data portion error checking information generated for each of a plurality of portions of the data received in order to generate the data storage error checking information, such that the data storage error checking information is comparable in a manner that is compatible with the application error checking information to determine if the an application data block comprised of comprising the portions of the data received contains an error.

31. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 29 wherein:
- the computer program logic that performs the step of receiving data, when performed on the at least one processor, causes the at least one processor to perform the steps of:

receiving multiple portions of data that comprise constitute an application data block; and

generating data portion error checking information for each portion of data in the application data block; and

wherein the computer program logic that performs the step of generating data storage error checking information, when performed on the at least one processor, causes the at least one processor to perform the steps of:

combining the data portion error checking information generated for each portion of data that comprises the application data block in order to generate the data storage error checking information; and

wherein the computer program logic, when performed on the at least one processor, causes the at least one processor to further perform the steps of:

determining if the application error checking information is comparable to the data storage error checking information; and

if it the application error checking information is not comparable to the data storage error checking information, converting the application error checking information into a format that is comparable with the data storage error checking information and proceeding to perform the step of comparing; and

-14-

 if ~~it the~~ application error checking information is comparable to the
data storage error checking information, proceeding to perform the step of
comparing.

32. (Original) The computer program product of claim 29 wherein the computer program logic, when performed on the at least one processor, causes the at least one processor to further perform the step of:

receiving a configuration command at the data storage system, the configuration command indicating to the data storage system at least one of:

- i) a designation of a portion of storage within the data storage system for storing the data processed by the steps of receiving, generating and comparing;
- ii) an indication of areas in the portion of storage that do not contain data including application error checking information;
- iii) an indication of a location of application error checking information within an application data block that comprises the data that is received; and
- iv) an indication of a size of the application data block.

33. (Currently Amended) A data storage system comprising:

an interface including a means for receiving data to be stored in the data storage system and a means for receiving application error checking information;

an error detection component;

at least one storage device; and

an interconnection mechanism coupling the interface, the error detection component and the at least one storage device; and

wherein the error detection component operates in the data storage system to detect errors in the data to be stored within the data storage system and includes:

means for generating data storage error checking information on the data ~~received by the interface~~;

means for comparing the application error checking information₁ in a format that is compatible with the data storage error checking

-15-

information, to the data storage error checking information, to determine if the data received in the data storage system contains an error upon receipt;

~~_____ and means for providing an error indication if the data contains an error, providing an indication of the error, and~~

~~_____ means for storing the data within the at least one storage device in the data storage system if the data does not contain an error, storing the data within the at least one storage device in the data storage system.~~

II. Please add the following claims:

34. (New) In a data storage system, a method for detecting errors in data to be stored within the data storage system, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the data at the data storage system, the data being received as multiple portions of data that constitute an application data block;

generating data portion error checking information for each portion of data in the application data block, the data portion error checking information having an N-byte checksum format;

receiving application error checking information at the data storage system, the application error checking information having an M-byte checksum format;

generating data storage error checking information on the data, the data storage error checking information being generated by combining the data portion error checking information generated for each portion of data that comprises the application data block, the data storage error checking information having an N-byte checksum format;

determining if the M-byte checksum format of the application error checking information is the same as the N-byte checksum format of the data storage error checking information;

if the M-byte checksum format of the application error checking information is not the same as the N-byte checksum format of the data storage

error checking information, converting the application error checking information into a format that is the same as the format of the data storage error checking information;

comparing the application error checking information, in the format that is compatible with the data storage error checking information, to the data storage error checking information, to determine if the data contains an error upon receipt;

if the data contains an error, providing an indication of the error; and

if the data does not contain an error, storing the data within the data storage system.

35. (New) A data storage system comprising:

an interface receiving data to be stored in the data storage system and receiving application error checking information, the data being received as multiple portions of data that constitute an application data block; the application error checking information having an M-byte checksum format;

an error detection component;

at least one storage device; and

an interconnection mechanism coupling the interface, the error detection component and the at least one storage device;

wherein the error detection component operates in the data storage system to detect errors in the data by:

generating data portion error checking information for each portion of data in the application data block, the data portion error checking information having an N-byte checksum format;

generating data storage error checking information on the data, the data storage error checking information being generated by combining the data portion error checking information generated for each portion of data that comprises the application data block, the data storage error checking information having an N-byte checksum format;

-17-

determining if the M-byte checksum format of the application error checking information is the same as the N-byte checksum format of the data storage error checking information;

if the M-byte checksum format of the application error checking information is not the same as the N-byte checksum format of the data storage error checking information, converting the application error checking information into a format that is the same as the format of the data storage error checking information;

comparing the application error checking information, in the format that is compatible with the data storage error checking information, to the data storage error checking information, to determine if the data contains an error upon receipt;

if the data contains an error, providing an indication of the error;

and

if the data does not contain an error, storing the data within the data storage system.